



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 344

February Session, 2008

* SB00344KIDAPP030608 *

**AN ACT CONCERNING FAMILY PROSPERITY AND THE
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CHILD POVERTY AND PREVENTION
COUNCIL.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2008*) (a) The Department of Social
2 Services, in conjunction with the Child Poverty and Prevention
3 Council, shall establish and administer, within available
4 appropriations, a competitive grant program for municipalities whose
5 school districts are priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p
6 of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes. The grants shall be used
7 to establish local pilot programs to implement proven research-based
8 strategies to reverse child poverty and to help reach the state goal of
9 reducing child poverty by fifty per cent by the year 2014. Eligible
10 recipients may apply for grants at such time and in such manner as the
11 commissioner prescribes.

12 (b) The Department of Social Services shall seek to maximize state
13 participation in the federal Food Stamp Employment and Training
14 Program administered by the United States Department of Agriculture
15 for the purposes of the competitive grant program.

16 (c) The recipients of grants under the program shall work with
17 community representatives and regional partners, including, but not
18 limited to, regional community-technical colleges, nonprofit social

19 service agencies, and regional workforce development boards, to
20 develop and implement a comprehensive plan to reduce child poverty
21 by identifying the target population of the local pilot program
22 pursuant to this section and developing research-based and
23 intergenerational strategies that assist children and parents. The plan
24 shall: (1) Focus on research-based strategies that include (A) homeless
25 diversion programs, (B) quality child care, and (C) workforce
26 development including literacy, adult education, postsecondary
27 education and vocational training and job placement; (2) focus on one
28 or more of the following populations (A) adolescent parents, (B) older
29 adolescents and young adults, (C) poor working families, and (D) early
30 childhood; (3) identify existing programs and resources that serve the
31 target population; (4) identify state, federal and local resources and
32 benefits available to such population, including, but not limited to, the
33 federal earned income tax credit and federal social service programs;
34 (5) identify areas where resources can be aligned; (6) identify strategies
35 to better coordinate and leverage resources; (7) include interventions
36 that focus on (A) family income and earning potential, (B) literacy,
37 education and vocational training, (C) income safety net services, and
38 (D) family structure and support, including programs to reduce
39 adolescent pregnancy and improve the income earning potential of
40 fathers; (8) identify community partners; (9) identify methods of
41 tracking progress on the number of families who have reached
42 economic self sufficiency; (10) include a budget for implementation;
43 and (11) include an evaluation process using results-based
44 accountability.

45 (d) The plan developed pursuant to subsection (c) of this section
46 shall be submitted to the Department of Social Services, in
47 collaboration with the members of the Child Poverty and Prevention
48 Council, for approval and implementation. The Child Poverty and
49 Prevention Council shall convene an interagency committee cochaired
50 by the members of the Department of Social Services and the
51 Commission on Children who serve on the Child Poverty and
52 Prevention Council to work with the local pilot programs and deploy

53 resources through results-based accountability.

54 (e) Annually from January 1, 2009, to January 1, 2014, inclusive, the
 55 Department of Social Services shall report, in accordance with section
 56 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the
 57 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to human
 58 services, appropriations and the budgets of state agencies, and
 59 education on progress made by the pilot programs in reducing poverty
 60 in the target population by fifty per cent.

61 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2008*) The sum of five hundred thousand
 62 dollars is appropriated to the Department of Social Services, from the
 63 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, for the grant
 64 program established pursuant to section 1 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2008</i>	New section

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Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

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